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Press Release

Julio Robaina Finalist for 2008 Mayor of the Year Award

Winner to be announced at awards program hosted by the Florida League of Cities

The Florida League of Cities recently announced Julio Robaina, **Mayor of Hialeah**, as one of six finalists for its *Mayor of the Year Award* -- one of 10 awards to be presented during the *Florida Cities of Excellence Awards* program.

"The finalists for this category provide exemplary service for their cities and should be applauded for this phenomenal accomplishment," said Carmine Priore, Florida League of Cities president and Vice Mayor, Wellington. "It is truly an honor and a privilege to salute such outstanding individuals in this celebration of dedication, innovation and public service."

The program is designed to highlight all the wonderful and innovative services cities provide to improve the quality of life in Florida and to honor dedicated city leaders and cities for their excellence in public service.

The *Mayor of the Year* honors a mayor for, among other things, their leadership, outstanding civic commitment, public outreach and service to his or her city during the past year.

Also nominated from the **City of Hialeah** is **William Grodnick**, for its *City Attorney of the Year Award*. The *City Attorney of the Year* honors a city attorney who displays exceptional excellence in the following areas: judgment; initiative; integrity; innovation, professionalism commitment and citizen relations.

All finalists are invited to attend the awards luncheon November 21, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport, where the winners will be announced. Winners will receive a "MUNI" award and be featured in the League's award-winning publication, *Quality Cities*.

Other award categories include: Florida City of Excellence Award, Citizen of the Year, City Spirit Award, City Clerk of the Year, Council Member of the Year, City Attorney of the Year, City Manager of the Year, City Finance Official of the Year and City Employee of the Year.

For more information about the Florida Cities of Excellence Awards, please visit the Florida League of Cities Web site at www.flcities.com.